



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS COMMITTEES
JULY 6-7, ANNUAL MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

- 1. Automatic qualification.** The committees request approval for all eligible conferences to receive automatic qualification. (See Action Items 2-a and 2-b.)

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **NCAA Bylaw 20.11.3.8 – Minimum Contests and Participants Requirements for Sports Sponsorship – Tennis.**
 - (1) Recommendation. Amend Bylaw 20.11.3.8 to change the minimum number of participants required in tennis from six to four.
 - (2) Effective date. September 1, 2023.
 - (3) Rationale. The committees feel four players is an acceptable number to complete a tennis match given the team has an opportunity to win a match with only four players.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Men's tennis automatic qualification.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2023 championships:

Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Rivers Conference; American Southwest Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference; New Jersey Athletic

Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Inter. Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; United East Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference; USA South Athletic Conference.

The anticipated pool allocations are as follows: Pool A – 35; Pool B – 2; Pool C – 7.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2022.

(3) Rationale. The 35 conferences meet the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.2 and have completed the automatic-qualification declaration form. Note that pool allocations may adjust if 2022-23 sponsorship numbers change.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Women's tennis automatic qualification.

(1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2022 championships:

Coast to Coast Athletic Conference; Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Southwest Conference; American Rivers Conference; Atlantic East Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women's and Men's Athletics Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Atlantic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Inter. Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Conference; USA South Athletic Conference; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

The anticipated pool allocations are as follows: Pool A – 40; Pool B – 1; Pool C – 8.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2022.

(3) Rationale. The 39 conferences meet the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.2 and have completed the automatic-qualification declaration form. Note that pool allocations may adjust if 2022-23 sponsorship numbers change.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

c. Selection criteria.

(1) Recommendation. That the current criterion of “win-loss percentage vs. last 50% of the season” be changed to “performance vs. last 50% of the season.”

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2022.

(3) Rationale. The committees feel “performance” is a better indicator of how teams and individuals competed in terms of results vs. competition. Additionally, with play in the fall, the tennis committees felt this criterion was good for the sport of tennis.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

d. 2023 joint championships schedule.

(1) Recommendation. To provide a day of rest between the quarterfinal and semifinal round instead of between the semifinal and final round for the 2023 championships only.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2022.

(1) Rationale. The committees are requesting flexibility in the schedule format for one year to accommodate the joint tennis championships schedule with all divisions competing at the same site. Given the variables of hosting multiple divisions at the same site, placing the day of rest before the semifinals provides the best opportunity for the joint championship success should there be inclement weather by reducing the number of matches per day. The requested change alleviates four straight days of eight or more

matches per day by redistributing two matches from the fourth day to the sixth day where there were only two matches originally scheduled. Additionally, the other Divisions I and II have a day off between the quarterfinals and semifinals so this will provide consistency across all divisions playing at the same site.

(2) Estimated budget impact. \$3,500 per gender.

(3) Student-athlete impact. Should there be inclement weather, this schedule provides a better opportunity for the success of all three divisions' championships.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2022 annual meeting report.** The committees reviewed and approved the 2021 annual meeting report as written.
2. **2022 championships review.** NCAA staff reviewed the preliminary-round hosts and the championship finals, including the banquets, evaluations, selections, protest procedures and other related items. The committees discussed best practices learned through the championship.
3. **No-ad scoring pilot.** The committees voted to adopt no-ad scoring for the 2023 championships on a one-year pilot basis. The ITA will also be piloting no-ad scoring at select ITA events in 2022-23. The ITA recommendation is aimed to reduce the overall time it takes to complete a collegiate tennis match and to achieve greater alignment with the scoring format used in Divisions I and II.
4. **Planning for 2023 championships.**
 - a. **Selection show.** The committees expressed interest in providing a selection show for the team championships and NCAA staff agreed to explore the potential with streaming partners.
 - b. **Schedule of events.** The committees reviewed a draft of the proposed schedule for the joint championships and emphasized the need for equity among divisions and also trying to play as few matches per day within the format as much as possible.
 - c. **Pre-tournament call.** The committees agreed to implement a pre-tournament host call to help hosts prepare in advance of the selection announcement.
 - d. **Webinar.** The committees agreed there should be more educational opportunities for coaches and have agreed to produce a webinar prior to the championships that will cover data entry, selections, championships format, etc.

- e. **Start times.** The committees noted a challenge to get matches in during this past year during inclement weather and agreed to start matches before noon on Sunday if necessary. The committees felt they were able to waive the before-noon requirement when applicable as stated in Bylaw 31.1.4.4.
- 5. **Officials fees.** The committees noted a strong desire to increase officials' fees as soon as possible but are aware this request comes out of cycle. There has been a challenge with securing quality officials for the preliminary and final rounds due to a rate that is not competitive compared to what is being offered during the regular season and in other divisions.
- 6. **Day of rest.** The committees discussed implementation of a day of rest and will provide feedback to the Championships Committee on format changes at the finals site for 2023 and beyond, noting the recommendation to change the placement of the day of rest from between the semifinals and final to between the quarterfinals and semifinals for the 2023 championship only (see Action Item 2-d above).
- 7. **Bench size.** With the changes to the bench size policy that allows all student-athletes to be in uniform, the committees agreed that student-athletes who are not in the squad size will need some type of credential to identify that they should not be in the playing area during competition.
- 8. **Automatic qualification deadline date.** The committees would like to propose a change to the automatic qualification notification deadline starting with 2024 championships and beyond. The committees propose having all conference championships be completed and the NCAA receiving notification of automatic qualifiers by 10 p.m. the Saturday before selections. The committees noted support for an earlier deadline among other sports.
- 9. **Selections.** The committees reviewed selection criteria and explored additional criteria. The committees were pleased with the amount of results being entered to the ITA but will continue to provide resources and encourage institutions to enter results to ensure more complete data.
- 10. **Preliminary-round sites.**
 - a. **Preliminary-round match times.** The committees reviewed the current policy for preliminary-round match times and determined they would implement mandatory match times for the preliminary rounds starting with the 2023 championship. The mandatory match times will be outlined in the host operations manual.
 - b. **Site representative.** Committee members will be assigned certain regions and help with securing site representatives for the first, second, and third rounds. Site representatives will also have a separate meeting to review the manual and expectations for when they arrive onsite.

- 11. ITA Update.** Cory Brooks provided an update on behalf of the ITA and solicited committee feedback on the potential scoring format changes/recommendations. (See Informational Item 3 above.)
- 12. Championships committee update.** NCAA staff liaison J.P. Williams joined the committee to discuss topics related to the division, including information regarding budget changes and the positive outcomes and the impacts they will have on the membership.
- 13. Committee chair appointments.** The committee approved current committee member Andy Girard, head coach of men's and women's tennis at Carnegie Mellon University, and Mike Lynch, senior director of athletics at Babson College, as chair of the women's committee and men's committee, respectively. Mr. Girard will replace Jon Carlson, who has served for two years as chair of the women's committee and will be rotating off the committee. Mr. Lynch will replace Mark Riley, who has served for two years as chair of the men's committee and will be rotating off the committee.
- 14. Review of manuals.** NCAA staff asked the committees to review the pre-championships, host operations and participant manuals and provide changes.
- 15. Strategic plan.** The committees reviewed and modified a strategic plan with goals that include pushing for an improved score reporting system and separating top-ranked teams in the preliminary rounds when possible, under the current Division III bracketing parameters.
- 16. Future bracket increase.** The committees discussed the desire to increase the individual championships bracket sizes in the upcoming years. NCAA staff will begin researching budget and student-athlete impact to provide to Championships Committee for the next budget cycle.
- 17. Annual meeting.** The committees agreed to meet June 27-28, 2023.

Committee Chairs: Jon Carlson, Gustavus Adolphus
Mark Riley, Kalamazoo College
Staff Liaison: Lindsey Eldred, Championships and Alliances
Aaron King, Championships and Alliances

Division III Men's and Women's Tennis Committees July 6-7, 2022, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Catherine Alves, John Jay College.	
Bill Carey, Transylvania University (via videoconference).	
Jon Carlson, Gustavus Adolphus College.	

Douglas Chapman, UMass Dartmouth.
Ryun Ferrell, Central College (Iowa).
Andy Girard, Carnegie Mellon University.
Justin Grube, Franklin & Marshall.
Scott Greve, Franciscan University of Steubenville.
John Hirte, Covenant College.
Mike Lynch, Babson College.
Suzanne Merritt, LeTourneau University.
Erica Perkins Jasper, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps
Mark Riley, Kalamazoo College.
Eric Spangler, Haverford College.
David Weiner, Christopher Newport University (via videoconference).
Absentees:
Justin Roe, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.
Guests in Attendance:
Cory Brooks, International Tennis Association (ITA).
Justin Cerny, International Tennis Association (ITA).
Darren Potkey, Coordinator of Officials.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Lindsey Eldred, Championships and Alliances.
Aaron King, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Jay Fitzwater, Playing Rules.
Eric Hartung, Division III Governance.
Bryce Peters, Championships and Alliances.
J.P. Williams, Championships and Alliances.